

ONE OF THE FARMER'S PERSISTENT ENEMIES

Chief Provincial Inspector of Weeds
"Triste" One of the Pests Which
is a Menace to Crop Production
and is Invading Alberta.

A bulletin has been prepared by Mr. T. B. R. Henderson, chief inspector of the provincial department, on the necessity of making war on the stink weed, and how to go about it. The bulletin is as follows:

Stinkweed (Chilopsis Arvensis) was introduced from Europe to Manitoba in the days of the fur trade, and has since become a serious menace to the production of crops. In Alberta it is found in many weedy areas and in some marshes and old construction camps where it has doubtless been introduced in feed brought in. Presently it is finding its way to the newer parts of the province, largely through feed and seed grain.

It is a native of North America.

It is often called Frenchweed or Penny Cress, but the name Stink weed is preferable, as it is much to identify the point.

Stinkweed belongs to the mustard family. It is an annual. Plants of this weed, however, which come up in the fall, can live over the winter the same as any other weed.

It is a branched plant growing from a few inches to 2 feet.

The leaves or root leaves are oval-shaped and pointed or stalks that spring directly from the plant at the ground line. The root leaves are pungent, coarsely toothed, and spring directly from the stem and spring out in all directions.

The flowers are white, about one-eighth of an inch across, composed of four free petals which are joined at the base in two opposite pairs. The plant flowers throughout the season, the seeds ripening from July to frost.

The seed pod is flat, about the size of a ten cent piece, has a deep notch in the upper edge, and is winged at the top with two opposite pairs of wings. It is winged and therefore easily carried by the wind.

Just below the winged part is a small, round, yellowish orange capsule.

The seeds are dark brown in color, oval-shaped and pointed, with a pointed apex and about one-eighth of an inch across.

It is a very persistent weed. After the middle of June the seeds are generally too far advanced to be plowed and therefore must be eradicated before they will grow.

The whole plant has a very offensive odor whether it is cut, crushed, or torn. It is easily recognizable in appearance, and when it gets its objectionable name.

Why Should Not Grow Stinkweed?

The plant usually matures earlier than our common grain crops, and in the process of maturing it expels its odors into the air. It is therefore easily carried by the wind and therefore easily carried by the wind.

It is a plant from seeds germinating in the fall live over the winter, and when it comes up in the spring it is gone, and maturing seeds very early in the season.

It is a plant that contains sufficient seed to open its seed when the seed pods have attained full size. It is therefore a plant that can be easily eradicated by pulling and uprooting plants on which any of the seed pods are attached.

The objectionable odor of the plant taints milk and butter, also the flesh of animals that have eaten it.

The plant should be eradicated when it is first noticed.

Methods of Eradication.

Given the following information in this post, and the expense incurred thereby, farms in some parts of the province will be compelled to pay a heavy valuation on account of its presence.

Some farmers who have had experience in the eradication of this weed will be required to eradicate it. It will be required to eradicate it. It should not be forgotten that it will pay to drag all the expense of eradication.

The plant, being an annual, is reproduced only by its seed, and therefore the only way to eradicate it is to cause the seed to germinate and destroy the plant before it matures and begins to produce its seed.

If the plant is not fully infested, the land should be disked and harrowed. On badly infested fields this method will be impracticable and the farmer will be compelled to use other methods of eradication.

For Cultivation.

As soon as the seed is harvested, the land should be disked and harrowed, but not plowed. It should be

clipped or well crushed. The seed will easily germinate by this method, and farm implements as well as by the feet of animals and man, is the best way to do a clean farm is to eliminate.

For Spring Cultivation.

If the field is not cultivated in the fall the stubble should be turned off in the spring. This destroys many weed seeds and reduces the number of weeds in the field.

This process should be taken to prevent plants from growing.

It should be done as early as possible, then harrow. This will kill the plants that have lived over the winter and prevent them from germinating.

When the small plants are just appearing through the ground, it should be harrowed. This process should be repeated until about the beginning of June, when the young plants will be fully developed.

The plowing should be followed by a sub-surface plow, which is more effective in eradicating all annual winter annuals and biennials than a heavy harrow should be.

It should be used for a day or half day to retain the moisture. Subsequent harrowings are arranged to kill the weeds and to prevent them from growing.

Where it is necessary to obtain a crop early in the spring, the Stinkweed is harvested as it matures earlier than the winter annuals.

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For Fall Cultivation.

This is to certify that the Partnership Enterprises existing between Charles W. Campbell and William H. White, under the firm name of C. W. Campbell & Co., and doing business at Bakers, Fruiterers and Confectioners, at 285 Jasper Ave., Edmonton, has dissolved by mutual consent.

W. H. WHITE, Jasper, Alta.

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